

1-25-2011

Montana Kaimin, January 25, 2011

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Volume CXIII Issue 49

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Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2011

MONTANA

Anti-discrimination ordinance threatened

Erin Cole

Montana Kaimin

Nine months after the Missoula City Council passed Montana's first LGBT anti-discrimination ordinance, a piece of state legislation threatens its existence.

Stacy Rye, a Missoula City Council member who was instrumental in passing Missoula's ordinance, said the news took an emotional toll on the core group of people who worked on it.

"I'm nervous and I'm mad," she said. "Missoula invested a lot of time in this community conversation and to have people from the outside think that they can know what's best for us is not OK."

According to the Montana Legislature's website, a bill sponsored by Rep. Kristin Hansen, R-Havre, intends to "generally revise the Montana Human Rights Act," which, unlike Missoula's anti-discrimination ordinance, does not prevent housing and work

discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation.

Because the bill is still being drafted, no one knows exactly what action it will take. However, Rye expects two scenarios.

"One is to revise the Human Rights Act so that it doesn't allow any county or municipality to expand or shrink it in any way, shape or form, which would highly restrict anybody but the state government from doing anything with it," she said. "The other

thing is to just go at Missoula and say the state is nullifying the ordinance, which would be very specific and narrow."

Rye foresees county attorneys testifying in Helena if the first scenario comes to pass.

"No county attorney would be OK with giving up that much power to determine what their own laws are, because that would affect other laws too, not just LGBT rights," she said.

See **ANTI-DISCRIMINATION**, page 6

Fresh Flurries



Snow falls on campus Monday evening after the first day of classes.

Greg Lindstrom/Montana Kaimin

CAMPUS

Engstrom prioritizes budget process

Heidi Groover

Montana Kaimin

After a five-week vacation, students at The University of Montana may be struggling to get back into their routines: waking up to the alarm, braving the cold walk across the Oval, taking notes in class. But President Royce Engstrom says he is ready to start his first full semester as UM president and he is focused on a few specific priorities.

Engstrom and other staff are restructuring the University's planning and budgeting process. Currently, the Strategic Budget and Planning Committee oversees the development of the University's budget and long-term strategic plan. A new structure will replace that committee with a four-step process including a planning committee, a

See **BUDGET**, page 4



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EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL CARTOON

On day 18

by Justin Franz, News Editor

It didn't seem real when he packed up his home in the Rattlesnake. Nor when he moved into a small house, just walking distance from Montana's Capitol. Or even when he first walked through the storied hallways of power on Jan. 3.

For Bryce Bennett, freshman representative from House District 92, it wasn't until he lifted his right hand and took the oath of office to begin the 62nd session of the Montana Legislature that he realized.

"That was the moment it started to feel real to me," Bennett said.

Bennett is one of 47 new members of the House, although for him, "new" doesn't imply inexperienced, having worked in the Legislature during the 2009 session. The experience, he said, puts him further along the learning curve than some of the other new members.

"It's easy for me to say 'I can remember this from last session; I know how this works,'" he said.

That's an advantage for the 25-year-old from Missoula, whose days are now filled with committee meetings and votes, days that start before 8 a.m. and don't end until after the sun goes down. Days that aren't that different from the ones he had just a few months ago in the final weeks before the election.

Through rain, snow and sleet, Bennett knocked on doors and talked to the people he hoped to represent about what they thought needed to be fixed in their district, their state and their country. Jobs and education were common topics, and each time, Bennett would enthusiastically go into his pitch, telling them that those were issues close to his heart, too. People believed him too, as he conveyed the message through his sincere and excited tone.

Talking with Bennett on the phone, as he stood near the house floor in Helena Monday morning, that same excitement was in his voice. He wasn't watching the process. He was the process. And even on day 18, as the long committee meetings and debates may take their toll, Bennett said he still loves what he's doing.

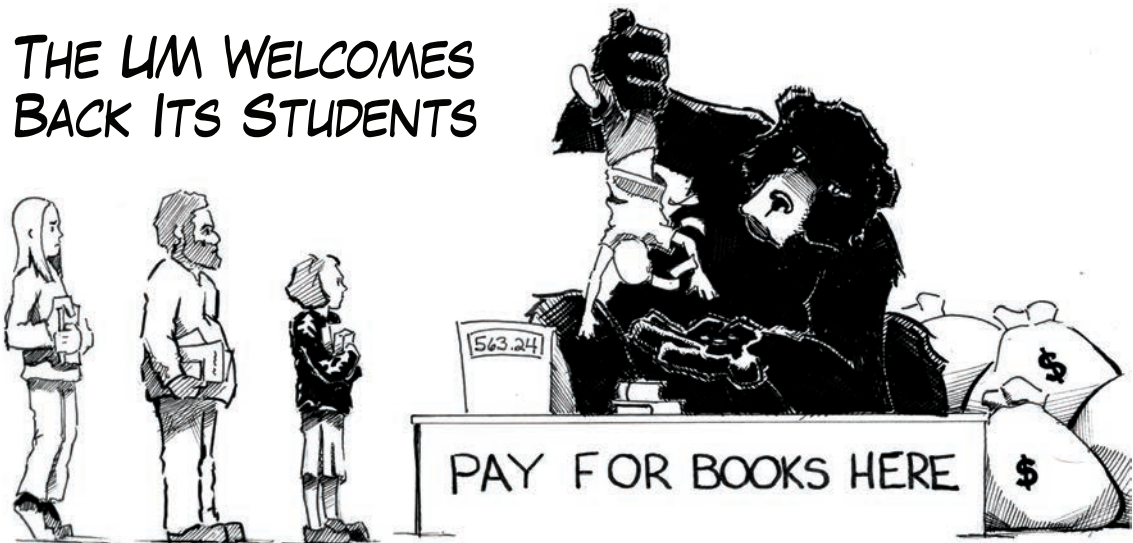
Hopefully that excitement stays in his voice in the months and years to come.

Far too often our politicians and leaders seem out of touch or passionless. Years at the same job, with the same stresses will do that to a person. It's not like they've always been like that. Clearly at one point, there was that sincere and excited tone that got each one elected to office. The tone and the passion that was caring and genuine.

Hopefully, for the sake of our community and our politics, Bennett and the others who have recently taken office are part of a new school of government. One that can tap into their own youth and ideals, where the passion never falters. ▲

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THE UM WELCOMES
BACK ITS STUDENTS



by Joe Veltkamp

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Why take the wind out of Montana's sails?

Creating jobs and rebooting the economy are the order of the day for the Montana Legislature, right? So why are some legislators now poised to kill Montana jobs and do our economy further harm?

It doesn't make much sense. Back in 2003, MontPIRG took a central role in helping to shape a Renewable Electricity Standard (RES) for Montana. The goal was to push the state's utilities to start using cleaner energy as part of their overall energy portfolios. It was also a way to help create new clean energy jobs and develop new, taxable infrastructure.

In 2005, then state Sen. Jon Tester sponsored a successful effort to make the RES law. He had strong support from a bipartisan coalition of legislators who understood how the RES would benefit consumers and the state economy.

Under the RES, state utilities must acquire 15 percent of their electricity from clean, renewable sources by 2015. Utilities have been working steadily toward this goal since 2005. As a result, we've seen economic growth in the state, both in terms of jobs and tax revenue.

But, even in the face of this progress, some members of the

current legislature are working hard to undo the RES. Several bills have been introduced that would either weaken or do away with the measure, despite evidence that it benefits the state.

To get an idea of how the RES helps, consider the growth in wind energy in our state. Construction of the Judith Gap Wind Farm resulted in hundreds of construction jobs, along with creating well-paying, ongoing operations and management positions. The farm also provides more than \$1 million to Wheatland County in annual taxes and fees. The planned Rim Rock wind farm will create an estimated 450 construction jobs and 30 permanent jobs in Glacier and Toole counties and add millions of dollars to the local tax base.

Efforts to derail this sort of progress are wrongheaded and bad for Montana. Students have a vested interest in supporting the RES. It helps Montana's economy and creates new jobs, while protecting our clean air and water. Those of us who want to stay, live and work in this state understand the potential for renewable energy. Montana stands to be a leader in this clean industry and The University Of Montana Col-

lege of Technology is helping to train students to work in this industry through the energy technology program.

Please help keep Montana on the right path by speaking up. Visit leg.mt.gov to find and contact your legislators and urge them to support the RES. You also can get involved on campus by contacting our campus organizer, Coreen Weintraub at 243-2908 or coreen@montpirgstudents.org.

Shelbi Dantic,
sophomore,
MontPIRG student lobbyist

Pissed?
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Write a letter
to the editor
or a guest column.

Letters should be 300 words or fewer and columns should be about 700 words. Please e-mail both to opinion@montanakaimin.com, or drop them off in Don Anderson Hall 208. Make sure to include a phone number.

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MISSOULA

City council selects new member

Heidi Groover
Montana Kaimin

The Missoula City Council selected Cynthia Wolken as its newest member Monday.

Wolken is currently chair of the board of directors of the Montana Human Rights Network and an attorney who consults nonprofit organizations, including the Montana Democratic Women's Caucus. She was selected 7-4 by the council and will represent ward 2.

"I'm excited to get back to work and start representing the ward and attacking some of the issues that are facing the community," Wolken said.

Wolken received praise from councilors and citizens before the vote.

"She will work for a healthy, sustainable Missoula," Molly Moody, a local political activist and nonprofit community organizer, told the council. "She has a very unique sincerity, and I know she will put the best interests of the city in the forefront of her decisions."

Ward 2 encompasses the area north of the Clark Fork River and west of Reserve Street, including Westside and

Grant Creek. The council seat currently pays \$12,767.40 a year plus city benefits.

Wolken said affordable housing, transportation and "smart growth" are her priorities for the city.

The position opened in December when then-councilman Roy Houseman resigned from his council seat after accepting a legislative assistant job at United Steelworkers, which requires frequent travel to Washington, D.C.

"I really am familiar with issues affecting women and children and families and I'm closer to Roy's age so I look forward to supporting some of the youth in the district," Wolken said. "We have a lot of students who live in Ward 2."

After accepting 17 applications, two of which were withdrawn, the city council chose nine applicants to interview. According to city rules, each council member was allowed to select one candidate to interview and some councilors chose the same applicant, resulting in nine interviewees, City Clerk Marty Rehbein said.

Council members conducted verbal and written interviews

with the candidates and chose Wolken in a roll-call style vote Monday.

Councilwoman Lyn Hellegaard, who was in the block of councilors voting for applicants other than Wolken, said the appointment will continue the 8-4, liberal-conservative dynamic she sees on the council.

"She's going to be a rubber stamp," Hellegaard said. "If she wasn't, she wouldn't have gotten that many votes."

Since Houseman resigned before he was two years into his four-year term, city rules dictate that an election must be held in November. Wolken will serve on the council until the election, in which she said she plans to run for the seat.

Houseman said the appointment rather than election of a new councilor meant the council should keep in mind why voters elected him for their ward.

"The fact that voters chose a young person involved in the community was a key demographic in my election," Houseman said before Wolken's selection. "I think it is also important that whoever

See CITY COUNCIL, page 4

FOR RELEASE JANUARY 25, 2011

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

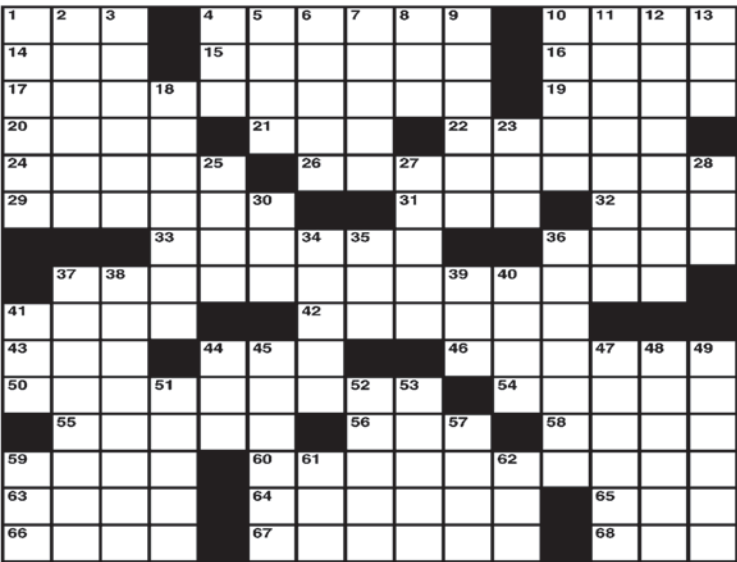
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Utah Jazz's gp.
- 4 Slopeside structure
- 10 Sodas
- 14 DDE opponent
- 15 Dugouts, e.g.
- 16 Frizzy do
- 17 "Worm change?"
- 19 Sci-fi saucers
- 20 Shimmery sushi fish
- 21 Lush
- 22 Speck in the sea
- 24 Lender's product
- 26 Hardly a tough decision
- 29 Decelerate
- 31 Dough dispenser, briefly
- 32 Craps cube
- 33 Words before "Here's to," perhaps
- 36 Remain unsettled
- 37 "Relocation company's cocktail mixers?"
- 41 Without accomplices
- 42 Didn't run the ball
- 43 Nice vacation time?
- 44 Old word of annoyance
- 46 Twitches
- 50 Kentucky's state flower
- 54 Sacro- ending
- 55 "How Do I Live" singer LeAnn
- 56 One of a salty seven
- 58 Architect Saarinen
- 59 Start of a coconut cocktail name
- 60 "Court mistake?"
- 63 Former Israeli president Weizman
- 64 Shoelace holder
- 65 Canapé topper, perhaps
- 66 Corporate freebie
- 67 Breaks down in English class?
- 68 Word usually found in the answers to starred clues

DOWN

- 1 Pooh-bahs



By Marti DuGuay-Carpenter

1/25/11

Monday's Puzzle Solved



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1/25/11

- 38 Quick joke
- 39 Biblical mount
- 40 Foreign Legion cap
- 41 Hose filler?
- 44 Giant's first word
- 45 Arched foot part
- 47 Nevada mountain range
- 48 Strand on a 22-Across
- 49 Made a basket, say
- 51 Old German money, for short
- 52 Wickerwork willow
- 53 Antes precede them
- 57 On the sheltered side
- 59 Vim
- 61 Shaggy Scandinavian rug
- 62 Sci-fi invaders, for short

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BUDGET From page 1

budget committee, implementation by the council of vice presidents and reviewed by an assessment committee, Engstrom said.

"My motivation in wanting to put this change into place was primarily to clarify specific steps that need to be taken to ensure an effective budgeting process for transparency and to involve more people," Engstrom said. "We want to bring more good thinkers to the table and make sure those people represent the various groups that exist on our campus."

As the legislative session continues in Helena, Engstrom said UM has three main priorities to communicate to the lawmakers who will decide how much state funding to appropriate for higher education. Engstrom said UM's priorities are maintaining high educational standards without raising tuition or fees, ensuring that employee salaries remain competitive and securing funding for a new College of Technology

"The number of students at the COT far exceeds the capacity of the facilities and the quality of that space just isn't up to today's standards."

Royce Engstrom, president

facility.

"The number of students at the COT far exceeds the capacity of the facilities, and the quality of that space just isn't up to today's standards," Engstrom said. "The state is emphasizing the connection between two-year education and the work force, so we need to invest in colleges of technology to make sure we are supporting the work force needs of the state and opportunities for students."

Representatives from UM's four campuses presented to the state Appropriations Subcommittee on Education Jan. 19, but won't know the state's

final budget until the legislative session ends in late April, Engstrom said.

The president's office is currently consolidating the University's departmental strategic plans into a comprehensive five-year plan and completing an accreditation report due March 1. After changes to the accreditation cycle, UM will now report to the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, which accredits UM, every other year rather than receiving accreditation visits every 10 years.

Engstrom said communication will continue to be a top

priority for his office, and he will continue his weekly video updates and the University Council, which meets every other week to discuss specific topics like UM's budget or legislative process.

Engstrom will host open forums Feb. 11, March 18 and April 22 to offer anyone who attends the chance to ask questions or lead discussions. They are likely to include budget and curriculum development questions, he said.

"No matter what else we do, we have to communicate effectively with one another," Engstrom said. "That is the key to moving forward on any other front."

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CITY COUNCIL From page 3

they select is someone who is a supporter of similar issues I've been supportive of in the past."

Russell Street renovations, zoning and city contracts are three high-priority items for Ward 2 and the councilor who represents it, Houseman said.

Houseman recommended Wolken to the council, which Wolken said made her the best candidate for the position.

"[Houseman] had some really great progressive values that we both share," Wolken said. "Equality, justice, a sense of community — we all share those."

Mayor John Engen will swear Wolken in Tuesday and she will begin work this week.

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MONTANA

Spending cuts may hurt college students

Jayme Fraser
Montana Kaimin

Students can expect to pay more and receive less if the state legislature doesn't reverse a \$38 million cut to higher education funding, said Jen Gursky, lobbyist for the Associated Students of The University of Montana.

The four Republicans on the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education voted to reduce Gov. Brian Schweitzer's proposed budget for the Montana University System by nearly \$15 million while the three democrats opposed it. The republican majority led similar 5 percent cuts in all the appropriations committees Jan. 11 in an effort to reduce overall spending.

An additional \$13 million was removed from the higher education budget because schools had used an equal amount of federal stimulus funds to patch their budgets the last two years, and the republicans do not expect more federal dollars to support schools.

The total cut is more than twice the \$18 million ultimately removed from the higher education budget at the 2009 session, said Democratic Sen. Bob Hawks.

But Republican Sen. Llew Jones defended his motion to reduce the budget for the sake of fiscal responsibility.

"It gives us the beginning point to expand if the reality becomes increased collections," he said.

The governor's budget office reports that the reality for Montana's college students is a tuition spike the next two years of 16 percent in fall 2011 and 19 percent in fall 2012 just to maintain the current level of services.

"If we don't fund at the status quo, our services won't be at the status quo," Gursky said. "And we, the students, are either going to make up that gap [in tuition] or lose services."

That's why Gursky helped arrange for nearly 30 UM students to testify to the subcommittee Wednesday. The students stood behind the seven legislators as they lined the walls of the small hearing room.

"My mom works three jobs, sometimes 16 hours a day. When she graduated from a Montana college in 1980 she was able to do so free of debt because the affordability of school was so much greater," Erin McConnaha, a pre-journalism and religious studies major, told the committee. "And now, studying for the same degree at the same col-




Jayme Fraser/Montana Kaimin

ASUM Business Manager Trent Hanson urges the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education to fully fund higher education Wednesday in Helena.


January 11, 2011

Vote to cut back on higher education funding


FOR




Rep. Roy Hollandsworth (R), Chair Brady
hgrain@3rivers.net



Sen. Llew Jones (R)
lcjones@3rivers.net




Sen. Debby Barrett (R), Vice Chair Dillon
gt3177@smtel.com




Rep. Ryan Osmundson (R)
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ryanosmundson@gmail.com


AGAINST



Rep. Robert Mehlhoff (D)
Great Falls
rmehlhoff@yahoo.com



Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
Bozeman
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Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Cascade
wranglergallery@hotmail.com

Members of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

lege, [my parents] are in massive debt. I can't see myself going any further in this education if the cost rises."

The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education reports that state funding of Montana universities has dropped in the past decade. In the 2000 fiscal year, the state legislature paid 49.7 percent of the cost for a university to educate an in-state student. In 2007, the state hit a low of 37.8 percent, and today the state

appropriation covers 38.1 percent of the cost to educate an in-state student.

Gursky said that difference means, like McConnaha, she will leave UM with greater debt than both her parents who graduated from the same school.

It's counterintuitive to cut education funding in a bad economy, said the Commissioner of Higher Education Sheila Stearns at the Jan. 11 hearing.

"We in postsecondary

education are also a big job generator," she said. "Sixty-eight percent of the new jobs to come out in Montana over the next ten years will require some form of postsecondary education.

"These students are sharing in the economic future of Montana, not just its economic recovery," Stearns said.

Regent Stephen Barrett later noted that 5,300 more students are attending Montana universities than during

the 2009 legislative session and further cuts will hurt the quality of education all students receive.

"They don't know they are the extra student with an unfunded student share," Barrett said. "They expect to be treated like every other student. They want counseling, they want health services, they want all the same support and they deserve all the same support."

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Sally Finneran/Montana Kaimin

Bree Sutherland, a transgender woman, tears a piece of paper representing a bill being drafted that could possibly repeal Missoula’s anti-discrimination ordinance.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION
From page 1

As for the second scenario, Rye said it would be so specific to Missoula that the courts would probably throw it out, but if not, she hopes that Gov. Schweitzer “would get out his great big red pen and veto anything that might pass.” Hansen did not return phone calls seeking comment.

Bryan Cochran, a psychology professor at The University of Montana and co-director of the UM Women and Gender Studies Program, said that while he wasn’t surprised to hear of the challenge, he was disappointed.

“It’s discouraging to see this happen, because civil rights are hard-won and the struggle to win equal rights is ongoing,” he said. “If this bill were to pass the state legislature, I think it would be a difficult blow to individuals in the LGBT community here at UM.”

Bree Sutherland, a senior studying psychology and social work at UM, says that the ordinance’s passage was a milestone for her as a transgender woman.

“Missoula has taken big legal steps to become a more welcoming place,” she said. “[But] wherever there are big strides there’s bound to be opposition.”

“It’s discouraging to see this happen, because civil rights are hard-won and the struggle to win equal rights is ongoing.”

Bryan Cochran, UM psychology professor
and co-director of the UM Women and Gender Studies Program

Sutherland said she would continue living in Missoula, even if the bill was drafted and successfully passed.

“I love Missoula and I love

the people in Missoula,” she said. “It’s really nice that my identity is protected here, but at the same token, I’m not going to let the lack of protec-

tion scare me away.”

It is unknown when the bill will be revealed to public inspection.

“You just have no idea with the Legislature,” Rye said. “They haven’t been great about transparency and letting people know in advance. I fully expect that at 7 a.m.

someday there will be a notice that there will be a hearing that day.”

Whatever the date or time, Rye said she and others will travel to Helena to attend.

“It’s a matter of how many people can fit in how many cars,” she said.

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Questions?
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*Deadline for Distinguished Teaching Award is Friday, February 4, 2011.

BASKETBALL

Following loss to Cats, Lady Griz seek consistency

Daniel Mediate
Montana Kaimin

The Lady Griz erased a 17-point first half deficit before falling to the surging Montana State University Bobcats at Dahlberg Arena Saturday afternoon, 72–69.

Montana State sophomore forward Rachel Semansky led all scorers with 21 points and added a game-high nine rebounds to lead the Bobcats to their second consecutive win over the Lady Griz at Dahlberg Arena after losing the previous 41 games.

The Bobcats built a 13-point half-time lead, 39–26, and climbed to 49–32, when guard Katie Bussey knocked down a 3-pointer at the 15:53 mark of the second half.

The Lady Griz then charged back to within two points twice, before finally matching the Cats late in the game.

With the Bobcats up by one, the Lady Griz fouled Bobcat guard Sarah Balian, who calmly swished two free throws with 11 seconds to play, pushing the lead to three. On the following possession, Bussey forced a Montana turnover with two seconds remaining leaving the Lady Griz time to get off a potential game-tying shot.

The game marked Montana State’s ninth straight win and remains the lone unbeaten team in the Big Sky Conference at 5–0 and 11–8 overall.

The Lady Griz dropped to 8–11 overall and fell to .500 in league play at 3–3.

“It’s obviously a tough loss, but it’s a good learning experience,” said sophomore guard Kenzie De Boer. “We fought hard to come back, the ball just didn’t go our way.”

Sophomore forward Katie Baker led Montana with 14 points and eight rebounds.

Montana’s bench outscored Montana State’s, 28–3, and the Lady Griz also outrebounded the Bobcats, 37–35.

Following the loss, Montana head coach Robin Selvig said he was pleased with his team’s resiliency to overcome a double-digit deficit, and he is eager to get back to practice.

“You lose one, you go on to the next one,” Selvig said. “They’ll be ready to go next week.”

The Lady Griz will get a second crack at their archrival this Saturday at 2 p.m. at Worthington Arena in Bozeman.

Montana headed into last Saturday’s matchup streaking off two conferences victories.

See LADY GRIZ, page 9



Katie Baker pulls down a rebound during the game Saturday against Montana State. Montana lost 72–69. To see more photos from the game, visit the photo blog at www.montanakaimin.com.

Sally Finneran/Montana Kaimin

Former Michigan quarterback Forcier unlikely to transfer to UM

Taylor W. Anderson
Montana Kaimin

The University of Montana football team has an opening at quarterback. Former Michigan quarterback Tate Forcier is looking for a team — but apparently Montana isn’t on his list.

The Missoulian reported this week that Forcier had visited the UM campus and was considering joining the team for the 2010-11 season, but a Montana athletic department official said Monday that that scenario is doubtful and that the quarterback will likely play his remaining two eligible years at a school in the Football Bowl Subdivision.

Forcier became the second true freshman to start every game during the 2009 season at Michigan. He threw for seven touchdowns and two interceptions in his first four games with the Wolverines, leading the team to a 4–0 start.

The team lost close consecutive games to Michigan

See FOOTBALL, page 9

BASKETBALL

Winter break can't cool Griz basketball



AJ Mazzolini
Montana Kaimin

While University of Montana students were away on winter break during the last five weeks, the Montana Grizzlies basketball team was hard at work.

Since the final week of fall semester ended in December, the Grizzlies have compiled their best stretch of games this season, collecting 10 out of 11 wins. That includes a 7-1 record in Big Sky Conference games, putting the Griz at 15-5 overall.

Coach Wayne Tinkle chalked the impressive run up to defense and a recently acquired team unity. Strong defense from senior Brian Qvale, 3.2 blocks per game, and sophomore Will Cherry, 3.1 steals per game, helped Montana rack up the wins even when the team's offense occasionally underperformed. Qvale recently moved past former Montana center Daren Engellant (1988-1992) as Big Sky Conference career blocks leader with 216 and counting.

As a team, Montana leads the conference in nearly every defensive category, including blocked shots, steals and defensive rebounding and is holding opponents to league-lows in shooting percentage, 38 percent, and scoring, about 60 points per game.

That defense has starred in wins against Oregon State, Portland State, Weber State and helped the Griz hang on for close victories over Northern Arizona, to open conference play, and over Idaho a week before. Most recently, Montana took the first of two games in the span of a week from Montana State, knocking off the Cats 75-61 at home on Saturday night. The game drew a Dahlberg Arena record crowd of more than 7,300.

In previous seasons, Tinkle said the team became one-dimensional at times with star shooter Anthony Johnson on the court. But without the two-year Grizzly who graduated last spring, each player on the roster

See BASKETBALL, page 9

Greg Lindstrom/Montana Kaimin
Will Cherry, center, drives past Montana State's Danny Piepoli, left, during the game Saturday when the Grizzlies took down the Bobcats 75-61. To see more pictures from the game, visit the photo blog at www.montanakaimin.com.

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BASKETBALL
From page 8

must contribute for the team to stay competitive.

“We’re way more of a team this year than last year because of that,” Tinkle said.

One of the biggest and brightest surprises for the Grizzlies this season has been junior Art Steward. The transfer forward from Casper College started the season coming off the bench, but moved into a starter’s role at the beginning of January in wake of starter Kareem Jamar’s hand injury.

In six games as a starter, Steward has

averaged 15 points including 19 against the Bobcats.

“Having Kareem not there is different, but we tried to pick it up without him,” Steward said. “I have some shoes to fill — some really big shoes — but I don’t think my role has changed. I just need to produce.”

While Tinkle’s goals for the season involved the sort of success that the team is experiencing recently, he admitted he didn’t see it coming this quickly. A majority of the players had no Division I basketball playing experience. Eight players joined the Grizzlies as either transfers from junior colleges or incoming fresh-

men. With any team that young, there’s a lot to learn to start the season, Tinkle said.

This week marks the halfway point of the conference schedule, and each of Montana’s remaining matchups will be against a team it’s already played. Every team in the Big Sky is familiar with each of the others, but upon second meetings, that familiarity grows even stronger, Tinkle said.

Before conference play opened up around the first of the year, the Griz played home and away games against both Idaho and Cal State Fullerton, so seeing an opponent twice in the season is nothing new. Tinkle said he wants his team to remember that experience and draw from it in order to beat the teams the Griz already faced.

The Griz look to repeat victories over each Big Sky school in the next few weeks, Tinkle said, and avenge their only conference loss to Northern Colorado when the Bears come to town in February. The first challenge of the second half comes this weekend when Montana heads to Bozeman to play Montana State on Saturday.

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LADY GRIZ
From page 7

Despite shooting 26.3 percent from the floor, Montana saw off the Idaho State Bengals 61-54 at home on Jan. 20 behind the strong performance from senior guard Stephanie Stender. She led all scorers with 16 points, while Baker added 19 rebounds.

Montana also topped the Weber State Wildcats on the road in Utah, 57-55, on Jan. 15. Baker led the team 12 points and 12 boards. She now has five double-doubles on the season.

The Lady Griz struggled to find consistency in the month of December with a tough nonconference schedule, going 3-4 with wins over Denver, Utah Valley and North Dakota and losses to Gonzaga, Idaho, Portland and Wyoming.

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FOOTBALL
From page 7

State and Iowa, a ranked opponent at the time, and the team finished the season 5-7. He passed for 2,050 yards with 13 touchdowns and 10 interceptions over the course of the season.

At the start of the 2010 season, Forcier lost the starting job to fellow sophomore Denard Robinson. Also a track athlete at Michigan, Robinson quickly earned notoriety for his high passer rating and ability to control the game with his speed.

Forcier announced via Twitter that he would be leaving the Wolverines after finishing the 2010 season with just a fraction of the pass attempts from his freshman year. Forcier’s father told the Missoulian that Forcier had visited the UM campus in December and was considering the school.

That report was put into question by the athletic department official, who brought up the fact that Forcier has two years of NCAA eligibility left in his career. If Forcier signs with another team in the Football Bowl Subdivision he must sit out a year before he can play. He does have a redshirt option available, however.

With the departure of seniors Justin Roper and Andrew Selle, Montana has plenty of uncertainty at the quarterback position. Gerald Kemp and Jordan Johnson are expected to compete for the starting position this fall.

taylor.anderson@umontana.edu



Sally Finneran/Montana Kaimin

Mathias Ward stretches for a rebound over Montana State’s Cody Anderson during Saturday’s game against the Bobcats.

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				5				
6			4				3	2
	8	9				1	7	
			1		2			
	7					2	5	
9	4				1			8
				4				
				6	5	3	9	

Level:

1

2

3

4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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4	6	3	5	1	8	2	9	7
1	2	8	9	7	3	6	4	5
6	9	7	1	8	4	5	3	2
5	8	4	2	3	6	9	7	1
2	3	1	7	9	5	4	8	6
3	4	5	8	2	1	7	6	9
9	1	2	6	4	7	3	5	8
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MONTANA

Lawmakers look at new bullying policy for schools

Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Montana's schools superintendent, attorney general and many others told lawmakers Monday that state standards are needed for school bullying policies to help end a problem that afflicts many students each year.

The proposal to protect students in public schools defines "bullying, harassment or intimidation" as "any threatening, insulting or demeaning" behavior, even if done after school hours over the Internet. The issue has risen in prominence nationally over the past year following well-publicized suicides of bullied students.

Opponents argued the policy should not be handed down by the state and could open schools up to lawsuits for failing to protect students from bullying.

Supporters of Montana's bill say it is important that the state specify that bullying is prohibited and set standards for local school district policies on bullying. It would guide procedures for investigation of complaints, notifying parents and protecting victims from further bullying.

They said bullying is different than teasing, such as by being repetitive and done with an intent to harm.

Several young students testified that bullying is a real problem that makes it nearly impossible to attend school and socialize.

"The thought that some children don't feel safe at school is something that Montanans can't allow," said Sen. Kim Gillan, the Billings democrat carrying Senate Bill 141. "This bill is not anti anything, except it is anti-bullying."

Superintendent of Public Instruction Denise Juneau said recent national incidents in which students, many of them gay, killed themselves after being bullied and harassed demonstrate the need for such a bill.

"Montana is not immune," she told the Senate Education Committee. "Bullying does happen in our schools."

Opponents said they are not in favor of bullying, just the way the bill deals with the issue.

Several groups representing school districts and administrators said the bill needed to be changed to avoid creating potential legal liability problems for local districts, and they argued the setting of such policy is better done with the Board of Education

rather than at the Legislature. Some social conservatives also opposed the bill.

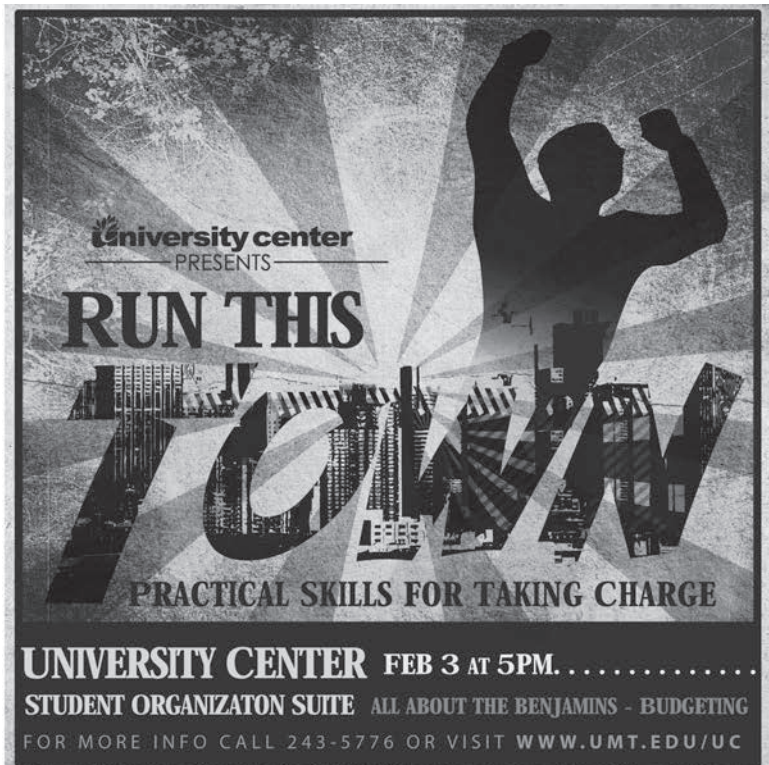
They included Tim Ravndal, who was in the news last year after he was ousted from a tea party group's leadership over online anti-gay rhetoric that appeared to joke about the

1998 Wyoming beating death of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student. He has since helped start another tea party group.

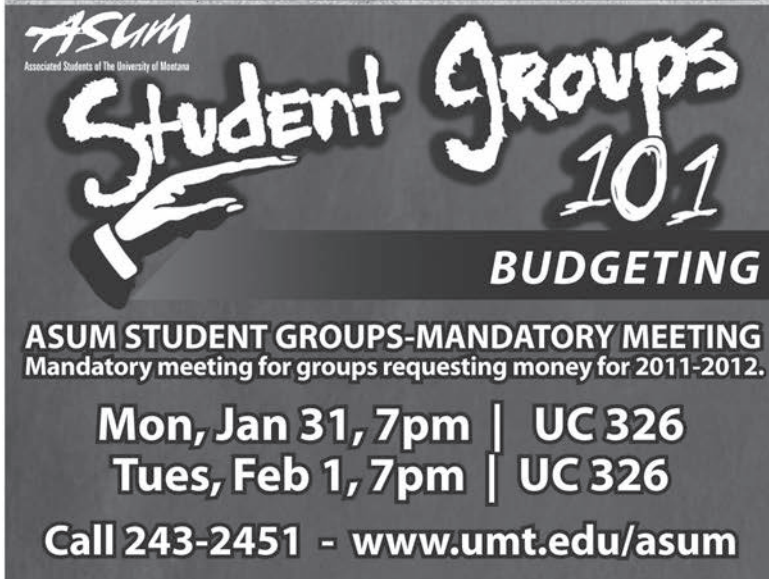
Even though the bill does not deal with sexual orientation, the conservatives said it will come up.

"This bill would be a weapon against any anti-homosexual dissent," said Harris Himes,

a pastor with the Eagle Forum group. "There is a devil in the details, a true devil."



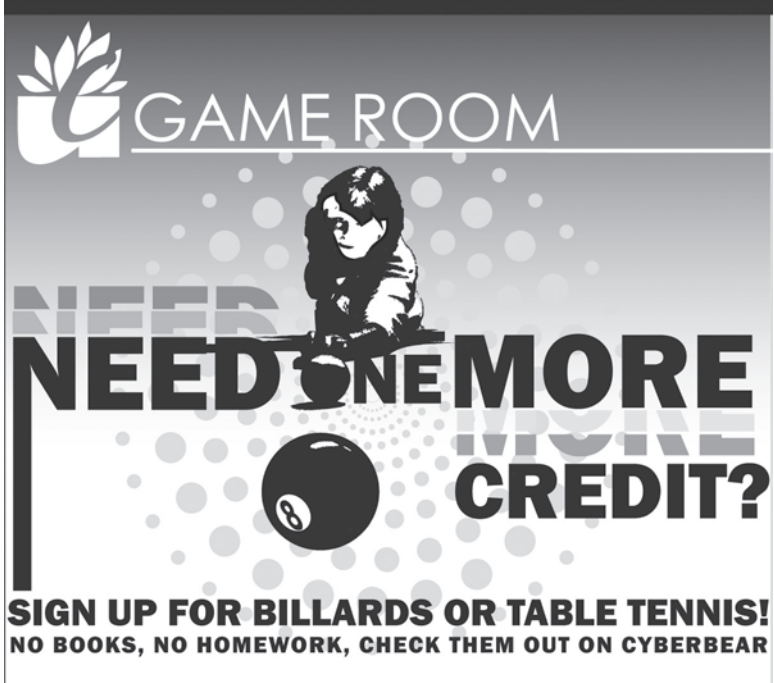
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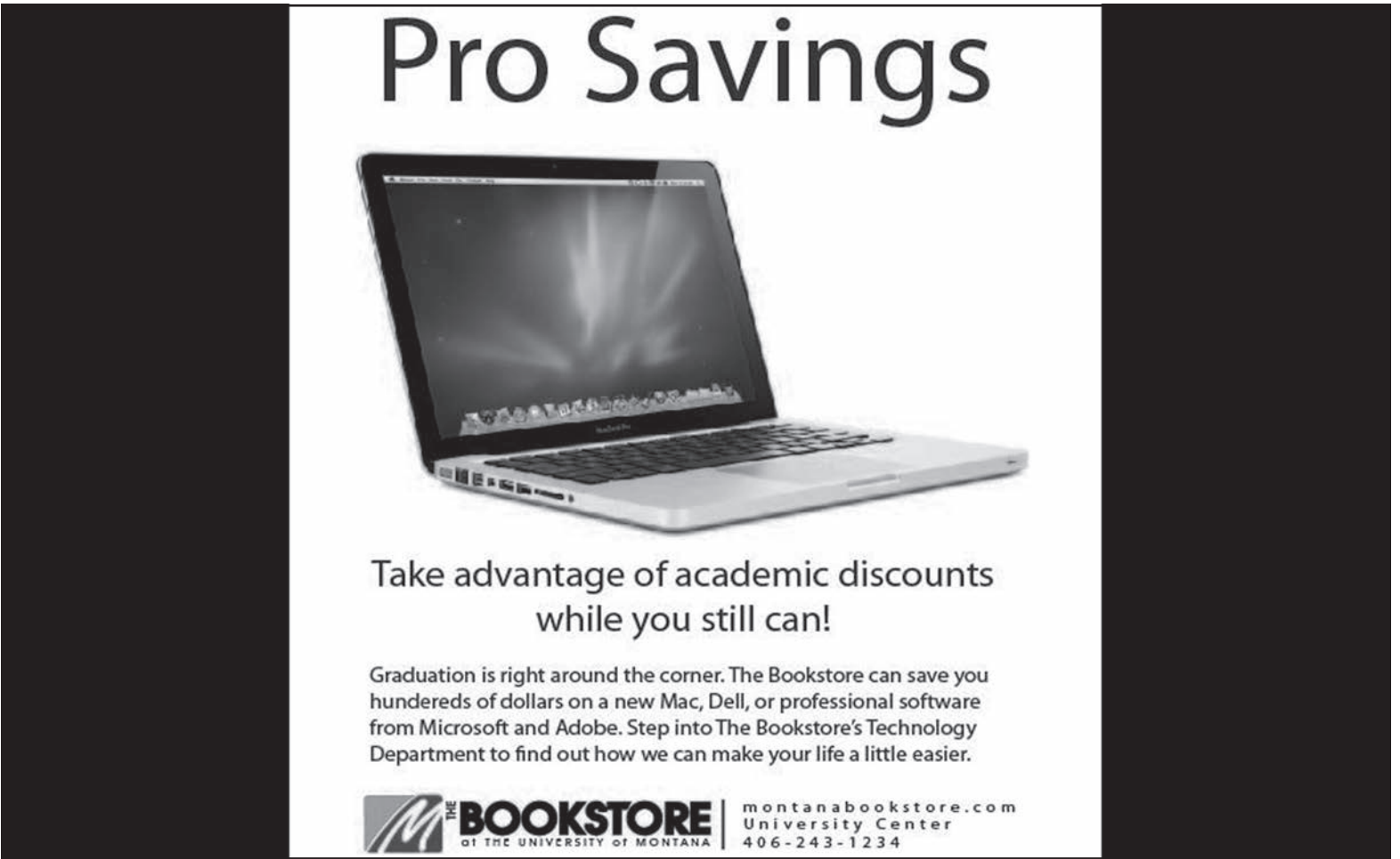
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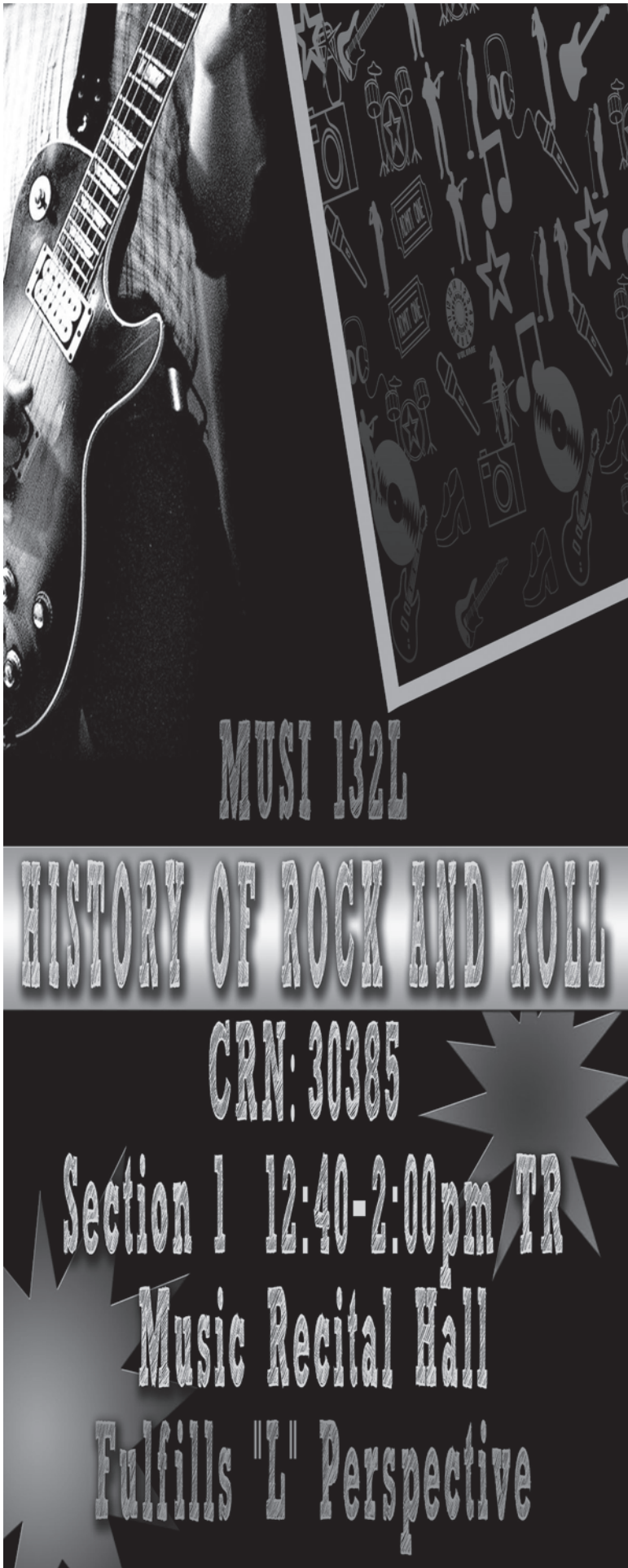


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